

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 122246

21

ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 INR-07 SCA-01 H-02 L-02 SS-15

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /050 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E-RSBARRETT:BK

APPROVED BY AF/E-WBCOOTE

AF-NDAVIS (IN DRAFT)

----- 058981

R 241653Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 122246

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, CASC, ET, US (HANNA, RICHARD)

SUBJECT: HANNA CASE

REF: A) ADDIS 6008; B) STATE 101814

1. ASST. SEC. DAVIS CALLED IN ETHIOPIAN CHARGE MEKBIB ON MAY 23 TO DISCUSS HANNA CASE. DAVIS STRESSED TO MEKBIB THE DESIRABILITY OF RESOLVING SUCH BILATERAL IRRITANTS (BEFORE THEY HAD SERIOUS DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON OUR RELATIONS). HE REVIEWED PERTINENT FACTS OF CASE AS IT STANDS AT PRESENT: LENGTHY DETAINMENT, NONCONFORMITY OF HANNA CASE WITH VALID TREATY OBLIGATIONS AND WITH OUR TRADITIONALLY FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP; GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT THERE ARE NO CHARGES PENDING AGAINST HANNA; AND APPARENT COMPLETION OF TRIAL FOR WHICH HANNA WAS BEING HELD AS A WITNESS. DAVIS MENTIONED THAT EMBASSY HAD RAISED MATTER BOTH ORALLY AND IN WRITING ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS WITH HIGH-LEVEL GOE OFFICIALS, WHO INDICATED IT WOULD BE PROMPTLY AND FAVORABLY RESOLVED; YET NOTHING HAS HAPPENED. DAVIS ALSO INFORMED MEKBIB OF INTEREST SENATOR SPARKMAN'S OFFICE HAS SHOWN IN CASE AND DANGER THAT IT COULD BECOME A PUBLIC ISSUE (REF B).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 122246

2. MEKBIB REPLIED THAT HE WAS GLAD MR. DAVIS HAD CALLED

HIM IN ON THIS SUBJECT SINCE HE ALSO WAS INTERESTED IN
RESOLVING THESE IRRITANTS, AS HAD BEEN AMBASSADOR KIFLE.

HE COMMENTED THAT THESE WERE "TRYING TIMES" IN ETHIOPIA
WHICH WAS UNDERGOING "BIG CHANGES" AND THINGS WERE NOT
ALWAYS FULLY UNDER CONTROL. HE DID NOT THINK HANNA CASE
WAS DELIBERATELY AIMED AT THE U.S. AND KNEW THAT MANY
ETHIOPIANS STILL BELIEVED IN RESPECT FOR THE RIGHTS OF
INDIVIDUALS.

3. MEKBIB STATED THAT HE HAD NOTHING OFFICIAL ON THE
HANNA CASE, ONLY WHAT WAS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN, AND THAT
HANNA HAD APPARENTLY BEEN ACCUSED OF ILLEGAL MONEY TRANS-
ACTIONS AND "OTHER ACTIONS UNBECOMING A FOREIGNER." HE
SAID HE WOULD CONTACT FOREIGN MINISTER KIFLE IMMEDIATELY
ON THE CASE AND INFORM HIM OF USG CONCERN. HE WOULD NOT
LIKE TO SEE SUCH TREATMENT APPLIED AN ETHIOPIAN IN THE
U.S. AND WOULD DO HIS BEST TO GET THE CASE RESOLVED. HE
ADDED PHILOSOPHICALLY THAT "THESE THINGS HAPPEN SOME
TIME" AND HOPED IT WOULD NOT AFFECT RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR
TWO COUNTRIES.

4. COMMENT: ON WAY OUT OF BUILDING MEKBIB TOLD AF/E
OFFICER THAT HE WAS EXPECTING A CALL FROM KIFLE LATER THAT
DAY AND WOULD BROACH SUBJECT AT THAT TIME. KISSINGER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTION, DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: johnsorg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE122246
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RSBARRETT:BK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750183-1063
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750519/aaaaaqnl.tel
Line Count: 86
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 ADDIS 6008, 75 STATE 101814
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: johnsorg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <11 DEC 2003 by johnsorg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HANNA CASE
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, CASC, ET, US, (DAVIS, NATHANIEL), (HANNA, RICHARD)
To: ADDIS ABABA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006